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BITTER FIGHT OUT OF TRAP British And American Forces Trying To Break Through

COMMENT

The Task In Indo-China

As part of the French programme for defending Indo-China from the invigorated Vietminh bid for conquest, the responsible Minister, M. Jean Letourneau, has declared that the largest possible measure of independence will be given to Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. This is an effort to fight the campaign in the political as well as the military sphere. How far it can succeed is still problematical.

What the French have been trying to do in Indo-China is to support a genuine nationalist movement to which honest nationalists could subscribe in preference to the synthetic offerings of Moscow. The choice of the former Emperor of Annam, Bao Dai, to represent such a movement was not a particularly happy one. But he seemed to be the best, or even the only, candidate available at the moment.

His idea, however, is not itself the stuff of an inflammatory nationalism. The hope for steady progress in self-government but that takes economic and cultural ties with France that falls something short of the fullest aspirations of extreme nationalism. France, in short, is trying to keep something of stability and gradualism in a revolutionary situation.

The need for gradualism is apparent in the shortage of Vietnamese who are really equipped to carry on the functions of independent government. The need for much French assistance is quite obvious. But every bit of that guidance can be interpreted as an attempt to prolong a superior "colonial" position. France is therefore in a delicate and difficult position.

That position is made critical by the intensified military pressure of the Communists trained in China. Indo-China has to be defended on the field of battle as well as in the world of ideas.

Mass Attack On Chinese Red Armies By Allied Planes

Tokyo, Dec. 7.

Advanced Communist units, racing round the flanks of the retreating Eighth Army on the North-West front, were last reported to be less than 50 miles to the north of the 38th Parallel.

There was, however, no confirmation of earlier reports that the Chinese had already reached the Parallel.

Big Three To End "War" With Germany

Washington, Dec. 7. State Department officials said today that legislation to end the state of war between Germany and the United States would be introduced in Congress shortly after the new session convenes in January.

Officials said present plans were for Britain, France and possibly some other governments to announce an end to the state of war simultaneously with presentation of the proposed legislation to Congress here. This was because the British and French governments having different "constitutional processes" from the United States, were not required to submit the proposal for legislative approval in advance.

It was regarded as more suitable for these governments to announce their action at the time the United States presents the question to Congress than for them to wait until American action was completed.—United Press.

To Stay On Side Line

Djakarta, Dec. 7. Indonesia will not support the United Nations six-power resolution demanding the withdrawal of Chinese troops from Korea, Aneta news agency reported today.

The agency, quoting circles close to the Government, said that the Indonesian Republic would not condone the use of the atom bomb, which it considered as a "deed of inhumanity."

The Government stood behind the 13-nation resolution—which it helped to sponsor—urging the Chinese People's Republic not to pass the 38th Parallel because this "offered a bigger chance of the preservation of world peace."

The same circles said that the Government would do everything in its power to maintain Indonesia's independent foreign policy and would not align itself with any side in the event of a third world war.

Earlier today the Prime Minister, Dr. Mohammed Nasir, had outlined Indonesia's position in the international field to a closed session of the Parliamentary Affairs Committee.—Reuter.

Meanwhile, every available United Nations warplane in Korea was switched to the North-East today to protect 15,000 British and American soldiers fighting their way to the coast under the cover of a wall of fire.

Some of the bitterest fighting of the war was taking place today around Kotori, just south of the Chosin Reservoir, where trapped American Marines and infantry and British Marine Commandos were trying to break through three Chinese armies to reach the coast and evacuation.

Allied warplanes in mass attacks laid a curtain of rockets, bombs and machine-guns along their escape route as the troops, led by bulldozers, battled their way slowly down the narrow winding road dropping steeply along a cliff face towards the port of Hahung, still 35 air miles away to the southeast.

A task force of the 10th Corps had fought their way out of Hagaru last night and reached Kotori, 10 miles further south, to link up with the rest of the Marine Division.

Powerful Chinese forces, estimated at seven divisions, were awaiting them further down the road while the gigantic Allied air effort mounted by the Fifth Air Force and carrier-based planes is aimed at holding the enemy back.

SUPPLIES FLOWN IN

Naval carrier planes—specially designed to land and take off in the shortest possible distance—were flying in supplies on to the tiny Kotori airstrip and evacuating the wounded.

Before they pulled out last night to the accompaniment of continuous small arms fire from the hills on either side, the trapped men, who had now been fighting non-stop for over a week, left Hagaru in flames.

A furious snowstorm added to the difficulties.

The Chinese were last reported building up a stiff road block three miles south of Kotori.

Elements of the 11 Chinese divisions now south of the Taedong River in the North-West were reported today around Amak, on the left flank, and Koksang, on the right flank of the Eighth Army.

Both towns are less than 50 miles from the 38th Parallel, which formerly separated North and South Korea.

The 40-mile long United Nations line was threatened by a wide-flung pincer movement.

KOKSAN ACTION

American 1st Cavalrymen recaptured Koksang, 50 miles southeast of Pyongyang, the Northern capital, yesterday but later withdrew again. Fighting was reported in this area today and at Yulli, a few miles to the northwest on one of the two main roads to Seoul, the

CHINA'S VEILED FRIENDSHIP

London, Dec. 7.

Mr John Keswick, leading British business man in the Far East, declared here today that the spirit shown towards Britain in China when he left it last month was one of "veiled friendliness".

This was especially so when it came to trade, said Mr Keswick who is here on a visit.

He is a Director of Jardine Matheson & Company, the biggest British shipping, airways and trading concern in the Far East.

Until recently he was Chairman of the British Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai.

"Talking politics is a different matter," said Mr Keswick. "But if governments and world politics will permit us to trade the Chinese People's Government is only too willing to trade with the British Commonwealth."

Discussing the crisis in the Far East, Mr Keswick expressed the view that unless one side or the other in Korea was prepared to modify its stand every day brought war between Communism and Democracy nearer.

"As I see it we have reached an impasse in Korea," he said. "Neither the Chinese nor the Americans are in any mood for compromise."—Reuter.



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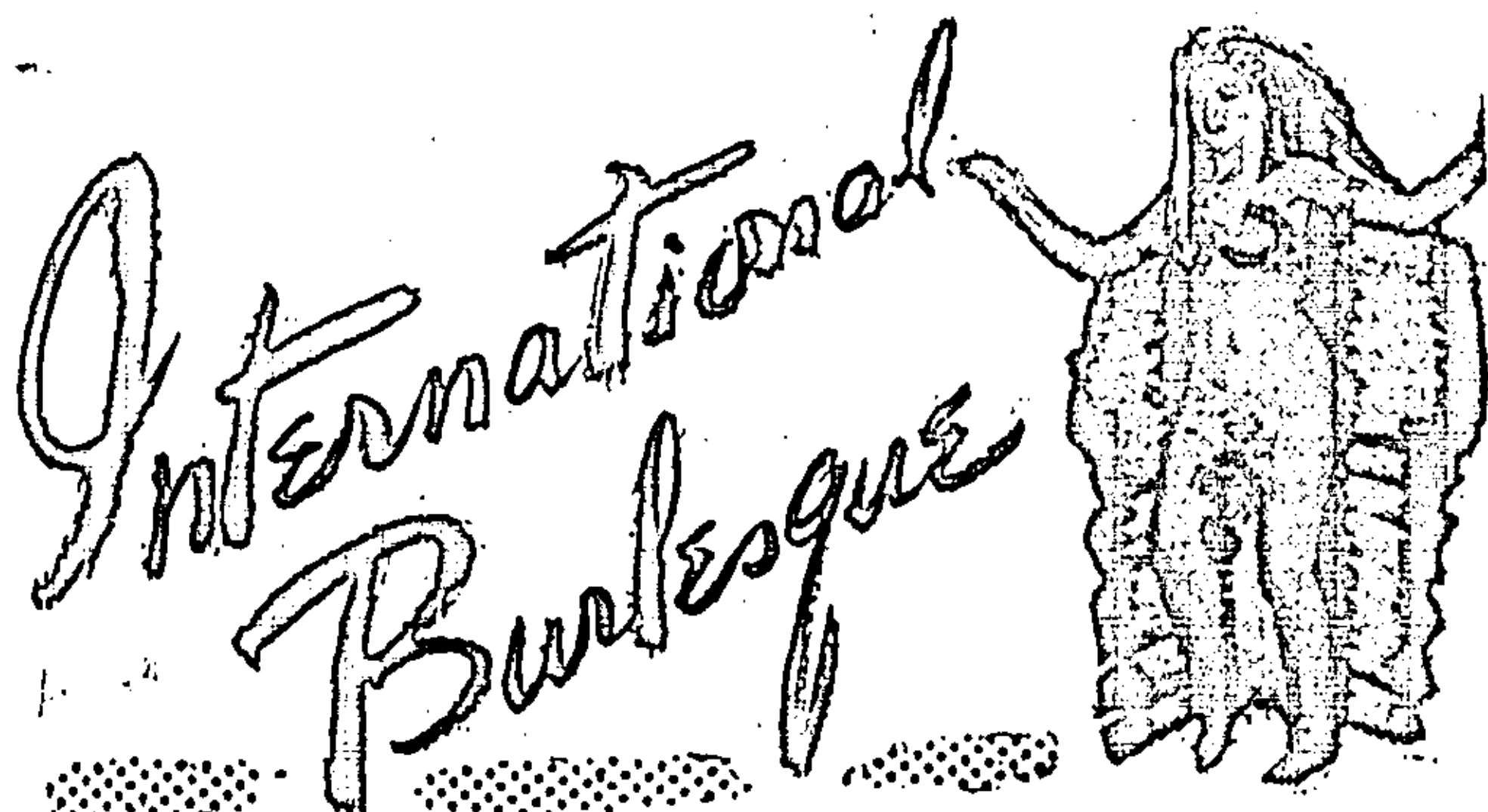
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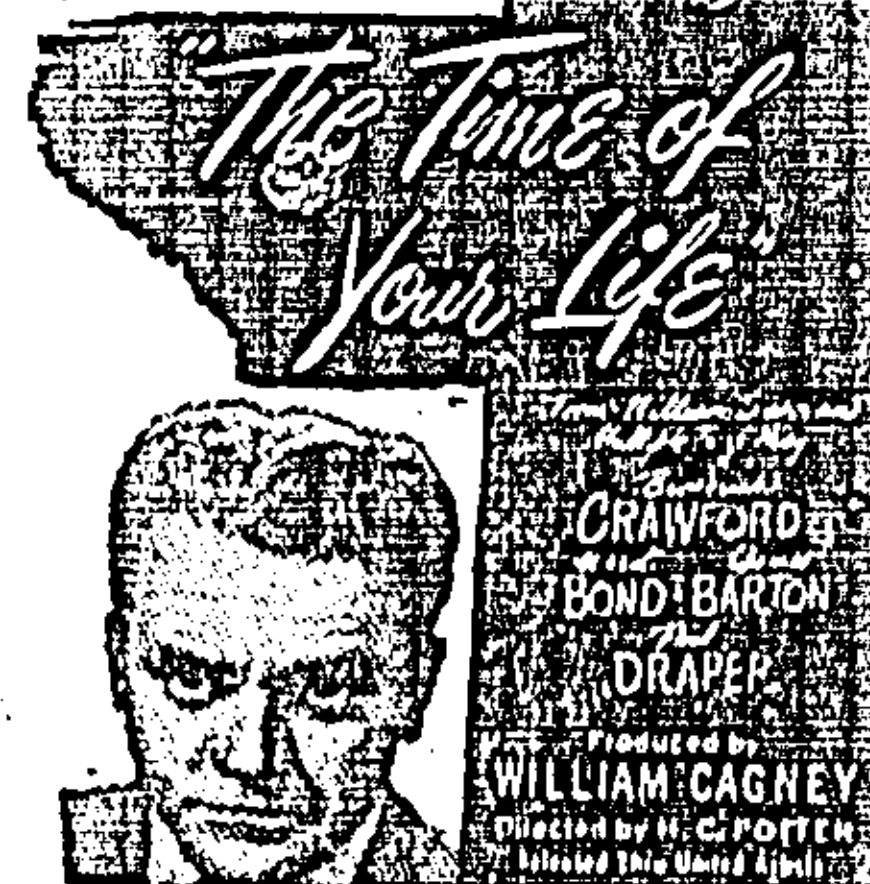
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PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

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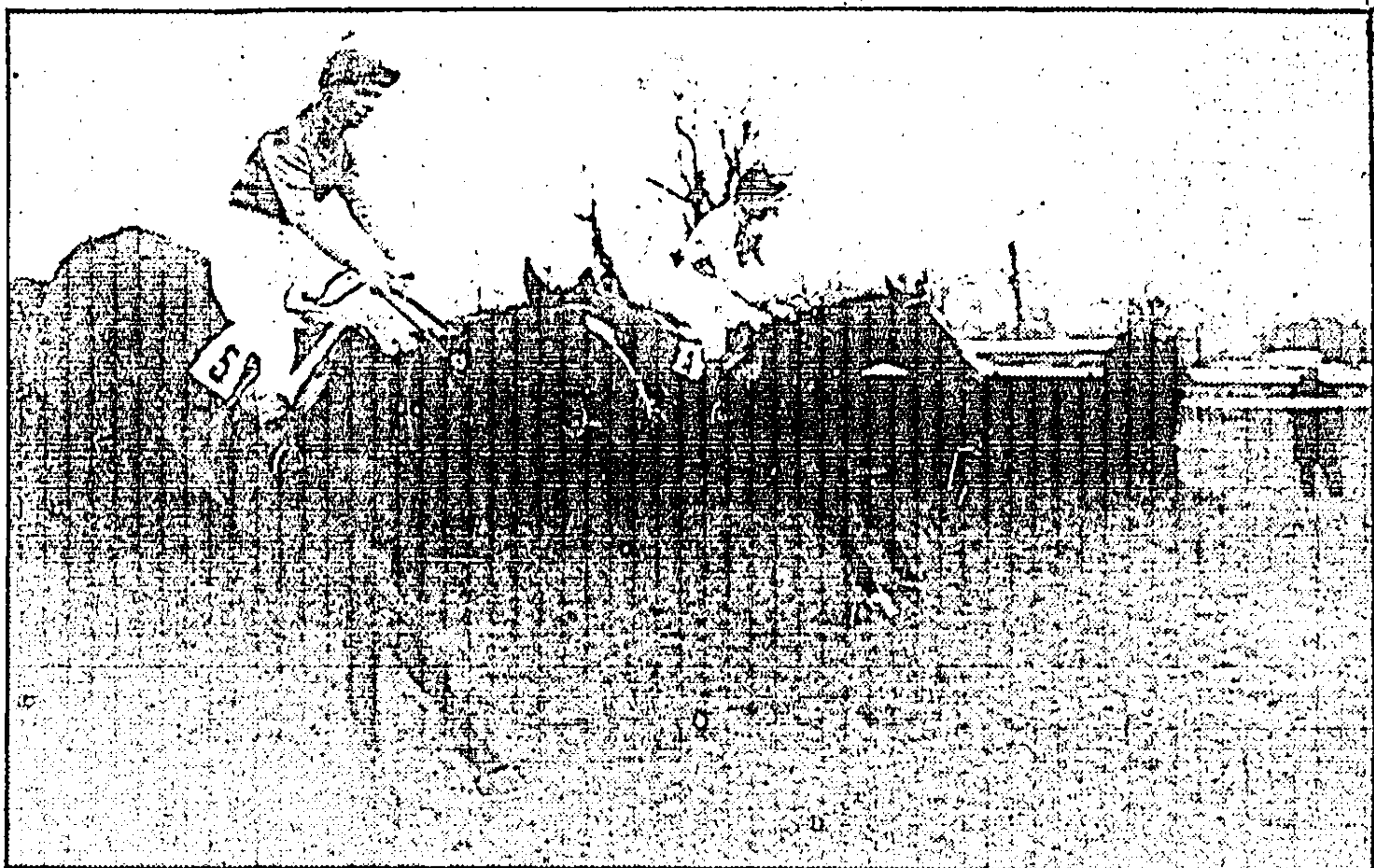
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The Queen's Win At Kempton



The Queen's horse, Manicou, leading Possible, left, who was second, over a jump to win the Wimbledon Chase at Kempton Park the other day. (Central Press)

May Have To Prepare For Harder Tidings But NO THOUGHT IN BRITISH OR AMERICAN MINDS OF KOREA WITHDRAWAL

London, Dec. 7.

There was no thought in "our minds or in the minds of the American authorities of a withdrawal from Korea," Mr Emanuel Shinwell, the Defence Minister, emphatically announced in the House of Commons today.

Mr Shinwell was answering a barrage of questions from Members on the Korean crisis. Earlier, the Minister made a prepared statement in which he declared—"We may have to prepare ourselves for still harder tidings."

A Conservative Member, Mr Beverley Baxter, asked him for the assurance that a withdrawal was not contemplated, "in view of statements that there is a section of members ready to urge the withdrawal of British troops."

Mr Baxter added that if it came to the choice of between the destruction of British troops in Korea and the use of the atom bomb, he and many of his friends would support the use of the bomb.

Mr Shinwell said: "I prefer not to answer that."

A Labour Member, Mr Harold Davies, said: "Some Members on the Labour benches would have nothing to do with the affair if the atom bomb was dropped on China." Mr Shinwell refused to comment on this.

CHINESE ATTACK

In his statement Mr Shinwell said that it would be foolish to underestimate the size or determination of the Chinese intervention. The latest estimates from General MacArthur's Headquarters indicated that there were now some 270,000 Chinese in contact with the United Nations forces in Korea, he said.

Nearly 200,000 were in front of the United Nations Eighth Army in the west and over 70,000 were attacking the American 10th Corps in the east.

Behind these first line troops it was estimated that there were nearly half a million Chinese available to support the overwhelming Communist strength in Korea.

Referring to the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee's talks in Washington, Mr Shinwell said that the situation was "full of peril and difficulty."

"No one knows what the outcome will be," he added.

Mr Shinwell expressed admiration for the gallantry of the United Nations forces, particularly the Americans—"the main bearers of the burden in this desperate and unequal battle."

In the bitter fighting in East Korea on November 29, the British Marine Commandoes lost eight killed, 26 wounded and 35 missing, he said. No details were yet available of casualties in the 27th and 29th Brigades in the recent fighting, but reports indicated that they were not heavy.

The total British casualties up to the beginning of the Chinese offensive were 52 killed and 174 wounded. The total American casualties at that point were 30,000, of which about 5,000 were killed.—Reuter.

State Visit Unexpectedly Postponed

Manila, Dec. 8.

President Quirino and government officials expressed surprise and disappointment last night over the reported postponement of the State visit here this weekend of the President of Indonesia, Dr Soekarno.

"If the postponement is true, we will just wait until he can come," said Mr Quirino. The Philippines government had completed elaborate preparations for a series of official ceremonies and social functions and entertainment for President Soekarno and his party, who were scheduled to arrive on Sunday afternoon for a six-day visit.—United Press.

Duesseldorf Tragedy

Bad Geyhausen, Dec. 7.

Lieutenant Colonel Stocker, senior staff officer at a British Divisional Headquarters, died from a gunshot wound at his home near Duesseldorf on Tuesday. It was announced here today.

His wife was seriously ill with a gunshot wound. A British Army of the Rhine announcement said: "No further statement can be issued until an enquiry had established the cause of the injuries."—Reuter.

Australian Labour Bloc Conscription

Canberra, Dec. 7.

Australia's Labour dominated Senate today dealt a severe blow to the Government's plans for compulsory military training for youths of 18.

It referred the Bill which has already passed through the House of Representatives to a Select Committee, on an amendment moved by Labour Party leaders.

The Labour Opposition in the Senate also stipulated that the Select Committee should consist only of Labour Members. They carried a second amendment to the Bill postponing further consideration of it until the first sitting of the Senate in the New Year.

The Senate rises tomorrow and does not sit again until early in the New Year, usually in February.

The Labour majority in the Senate earlier this year had first rejected and then passed legislation introduced by the Government, including a Bill to outlaw the Communist Party.—Reuter.

PEKING'S "PRICE" FOR A TRUCE

Expected To Be Far Too High To Be Accepted By U.N.

Reply To Indian Approach Possible Today

London, Dec. 7.

Communist China's "price" for agreeing to stop its armies at the 38th Parallel in Korea may be far too high for the Western nations to accept, authoritative diplomatic sources said on Thursday.

These sources emphasised that no one probably will know what the Chinese will ask as a "price" for a cease-fire at the 38th Parallel until their armies reach that invisible line.

These sources said China's "minimum" terms were understood to include these demands:

- (1) Total evacuation of United States forces from Korea.
- (2) Admission of Red China to the United Nations.
- (3) Stoppage of military aid to the French-sponsored Vietnamese regime in Indo-China.

In addition the Chinese were certain to insist upon the withdrawal of the United States Seventh Fleet from Formosan waters and allowing Red China to take over that island on which Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and the remnants of his Nationalist regime are holding out.

It was understood here that this major problem—China's "price" for agreeing to a cease-fire and division of Korea at the 38th Parallel pending elections—was the major issue under discussion in Lake Success and Washington.

LITTLE OPTIMISM

Optimism about the Chinese agreeing to stop at the 38th parallel was not very strong here.

As one official put it: "General MacArthur did not stop at the 38th parallel when the United Nations had the North Koreans on the run going north. Therefore, why think that the Chinese, if they still have the United Nations forces on the run, will be inclined to stop at the 38th parallel going south?"

The British people seemed to be settling down to take more bad news from Korea if necessary. The near-hysteria of last week when a careless phrase about the atom bomb by President Truman jolted all of Europe, was gone. Even the recent bitter anti-MacArthurism was missing.—United Press.

ANSWER SOON

Lake Success, Dec. 7. Sir Benegal Narsing Rau, India's chief United Nations delegate, said today that he was expecting "at any time" a reply to the 13 nations' appeal to China and North Korea to halt at the 38th Parallel.

He added, "Asian delegations that sponsored the recent appeal and certain other Asian delegations met again today to exchange views on the situation in the Far East in the light of all available information. They decided to meet again for the same purpose from time to time as further information became available and to continue their efforts in the cause of peace and strengthening the United Nations."

Sir Benegal had called the meeting at short notice after having a talk with Mr Chiao Kuan-hua, adviser to the Peking delegation.

Asked whether Mr Wu Hsiuchuan, leader of the Peking delegation, had been invited to attend the conference, Sir Benegal said that he had been asked

whether it would be possible for him to attend the meeting.

Mr Wu had stated that as the Political Committee was to be in session he could not attend.

Mr Wu was generally expected to communicate to Sir Benegal today the Chinese Communists' reply to the preliminary peace plan presented by the Indian delegate on Monday.

The plan envisages a cease-fire in Korea and a temporary truce line along the 38th Parallel pending negotiations of wider issues.—Reuter.

SOVIET OBJECTION OVERRULED

Lake Success, Dec. 7. The Social and Humanitarian Committee of the United Nations General Assembly voted today to circulate documents submitted by the governments of Germany, Japan and Italy of the issue of repatriation of World War II prisoners of war.

Despite Soviet objections that the procedure employed to make the documents reach the committee was illegal, distribution was voted 26 to five with eight abstentions.

The debate was caused when the temporary chairman, Mr A. S. Bohari, announced that the documents would be distributed. The usual procedure is for non-member documents to be distributed simply on the request of any delegation without need of a vote.

Delegations from all the three countries concerned were on hand for the debate as unofficial observers.

Representing Japan were Elji Wajima, chief of the Control Bureau of the Japanese Foreign Minister, Soichi Saito, head of the Japanese YMCA, and Miss Nasa Nakayama of the Lower House of the Diet.

Germany was represented by Hans von Trutzschler of the Federal Chancellery, Reinmund Hergt of the Ministry of Justice, Herbert Wehner and Eugene Gerstenmaier of the Bundstag and Georg Federer, secretary and interpreter of the delegation. Italy was represented by M. Mascia, its permanent observer at the United Nations.

All three documents back up the charges made by the Western powers on the retention by the Soviet Union of prisoners of war. The Japanese communication estimates that unrepatriated prisoners total around 370,000 and possibly more.

The German documents charged that there were 1,285,494 former members of the Wehrmacht on whose whereabouts the USSR has so far failed to furnish any information.

Details of the Italian document were not made available to the press immediately.—United Press.

French Plan For Big Four Parley

Paris, Dec. 7. France today proposed that the Big Three Western powers invite Russia to a Big Four conference on global problems, provided Russia agreed in advance to negotiate on a specific list of East-West disputes. Informed sources said the French made the proposal in a draft note submitted to the opening session of a two-day conference here of American, British and French diplomats.—United Press.

Talks On Egyptian Treaty

London, Dec. 7.

Today's second business meeting between Salah El Din Bey and the Foreign Secretary, Mr Ernest Bevin, since the Egyptian Foreign Minister arrived in London last week, lasted three-quarters of an hour.

A Foreign Office spokesman said afterwards that the whole period had been devoted to a further review of the problems of revising the 1936 Anglo-Egyptian Treaty and that another meeting between the two Ministers would take place later in the week.

Although usually well-informed quarters in London did not think that any progress had been made at the meeting on Tuesday, the length of today's meeting was thought to mean that some new proposals must have been introduced into the discussions.

Salah El Din Bey was accompanied by the Egyptian Ambassador in London, and Mr Bevin by Sir Ralph Stevenson, the British Ambassador to Egypt, as well as by Foreign Office advisers.—Reuter.

Peking Attention On Indo-China

London, Dec. 7.

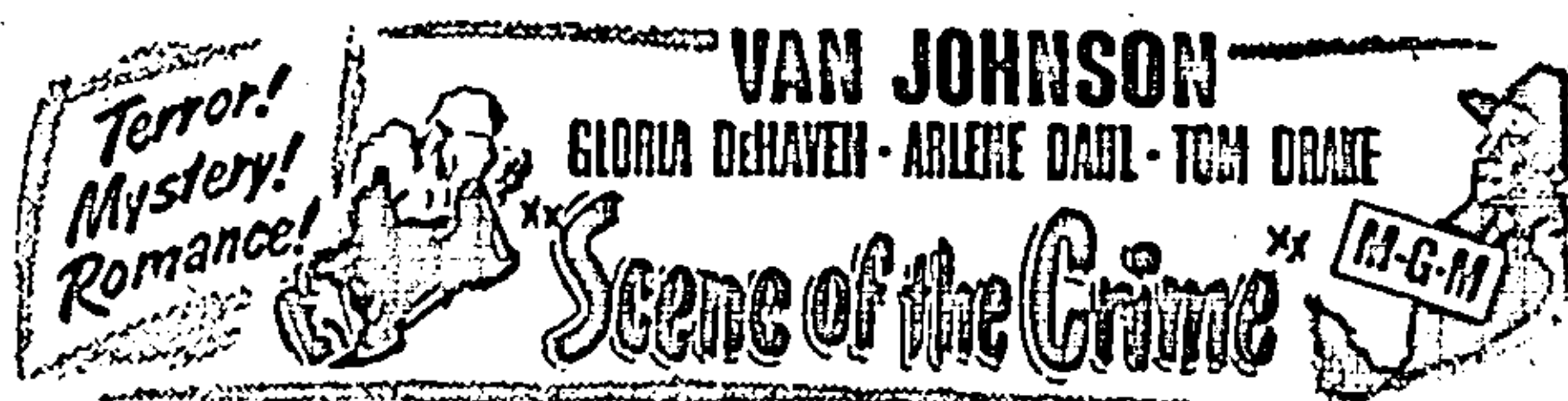
Peking Radio made fresh charges tonight that French aeroplanes had violated Chinese territory from Indo-China.

Without naming a source, the Radio said tonight, "Aeroplanes of the French aggression forces in Vietnam have continued to invade the frontier area of China, and their ground forces have bombarded Chinese territory."

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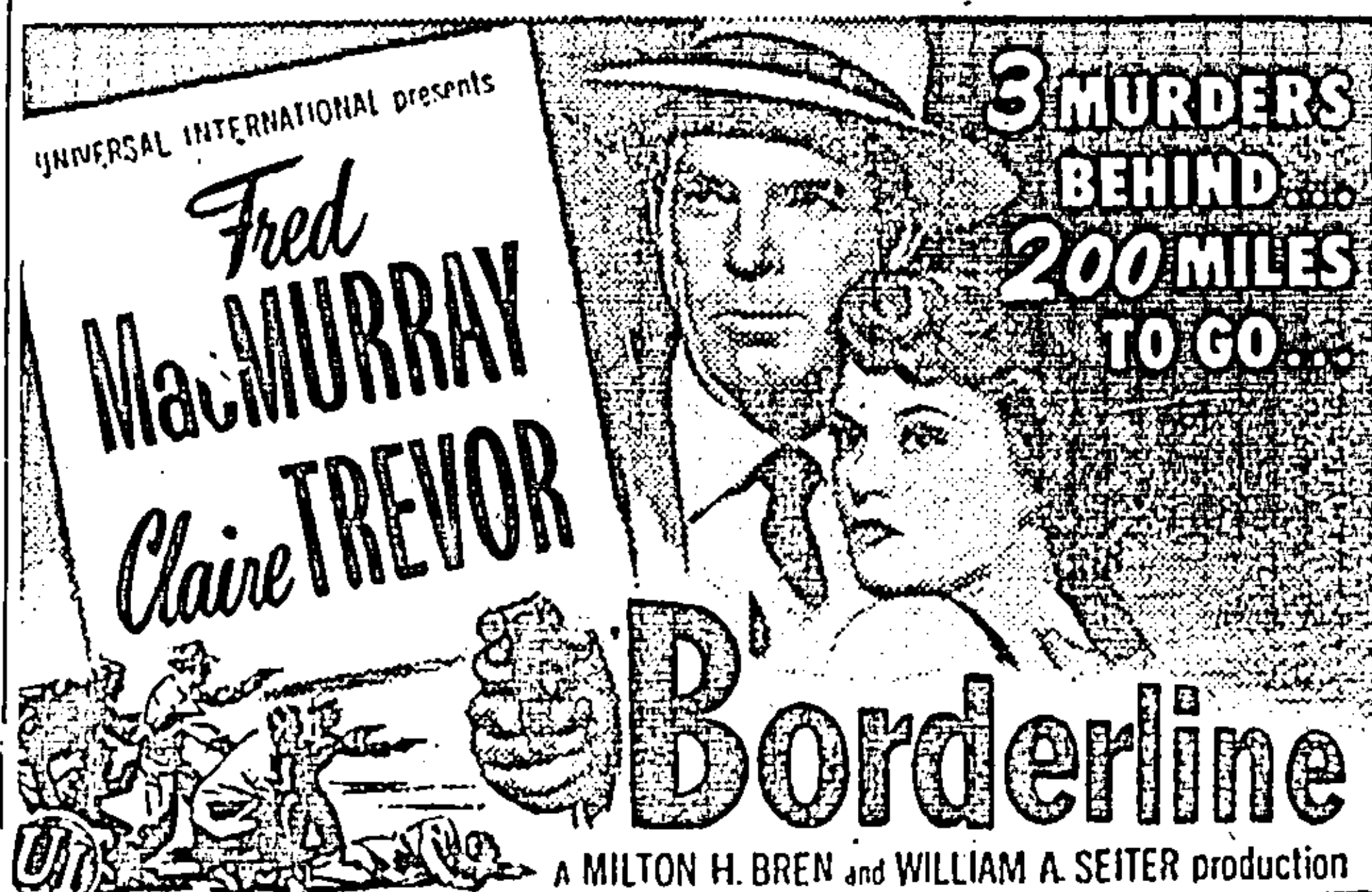


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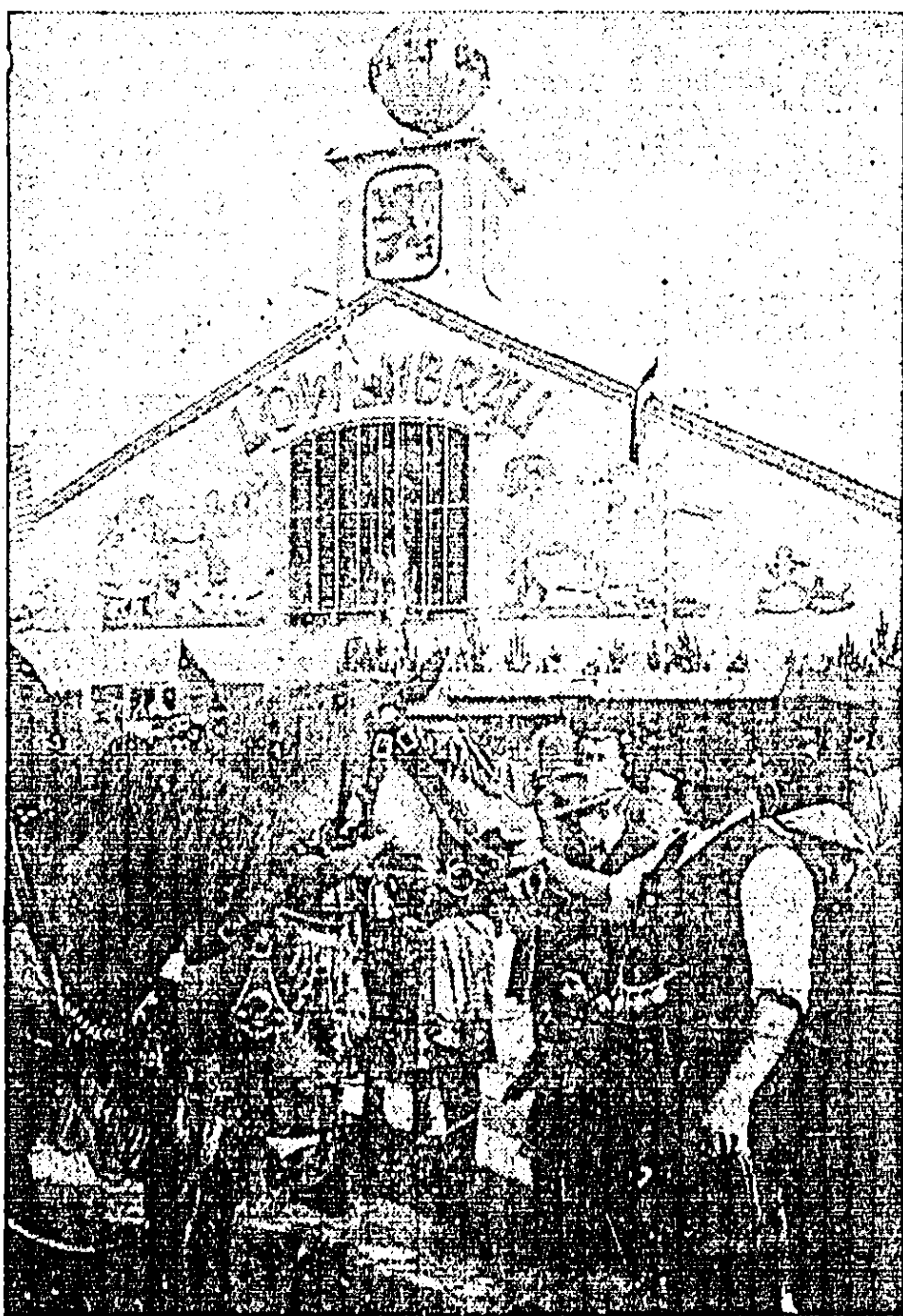
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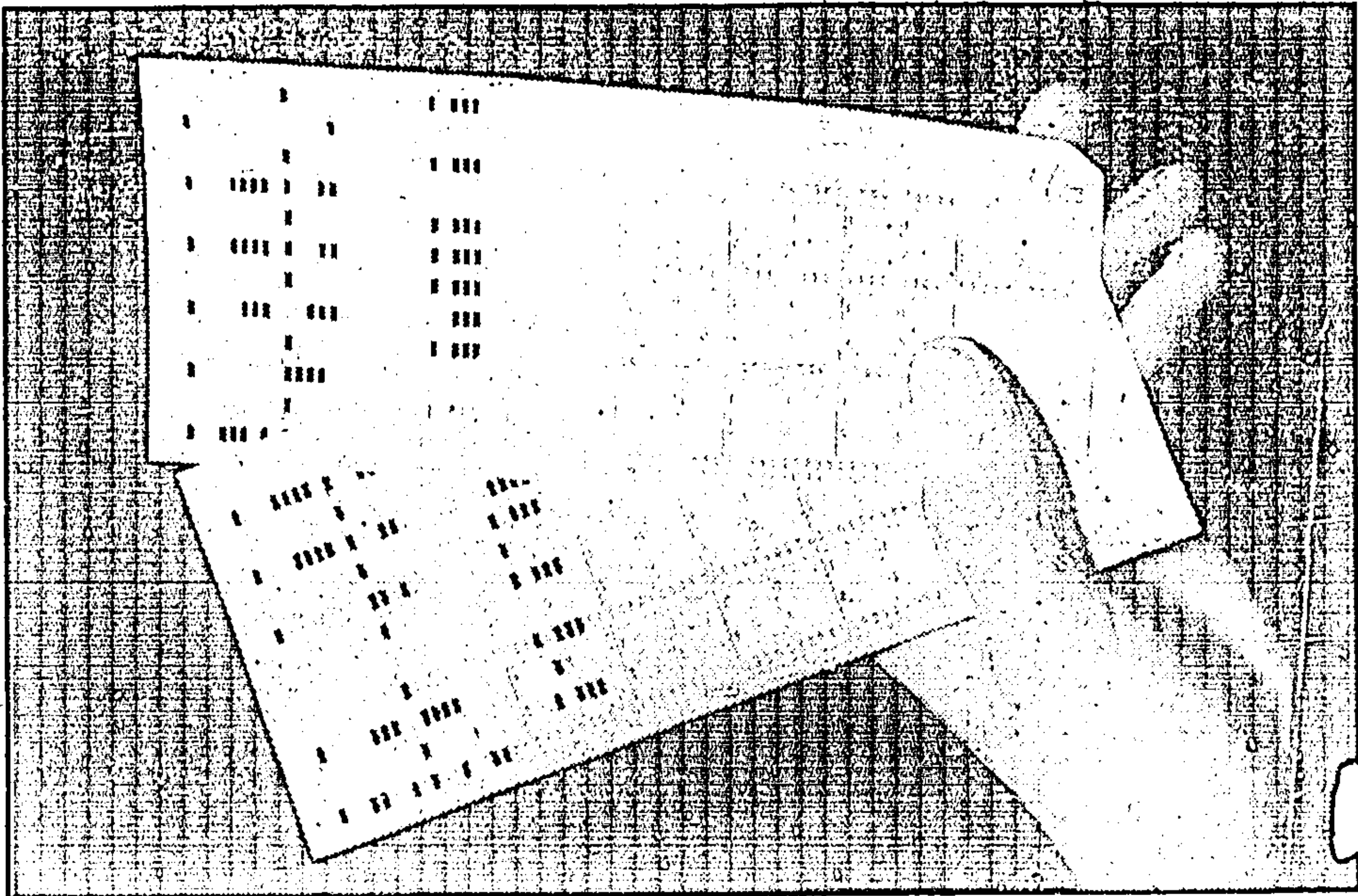
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9th.



With the 140th traditional Beer Festival under way in Munich, the thirst of the Bavarians is being quenched. Here, the traditional Beer Leader is shown with well-decorated horses in front of one of the huge tents which are able to hold 5,000 drinkers. (Acme).

A Mechanical Brain Gets To Work

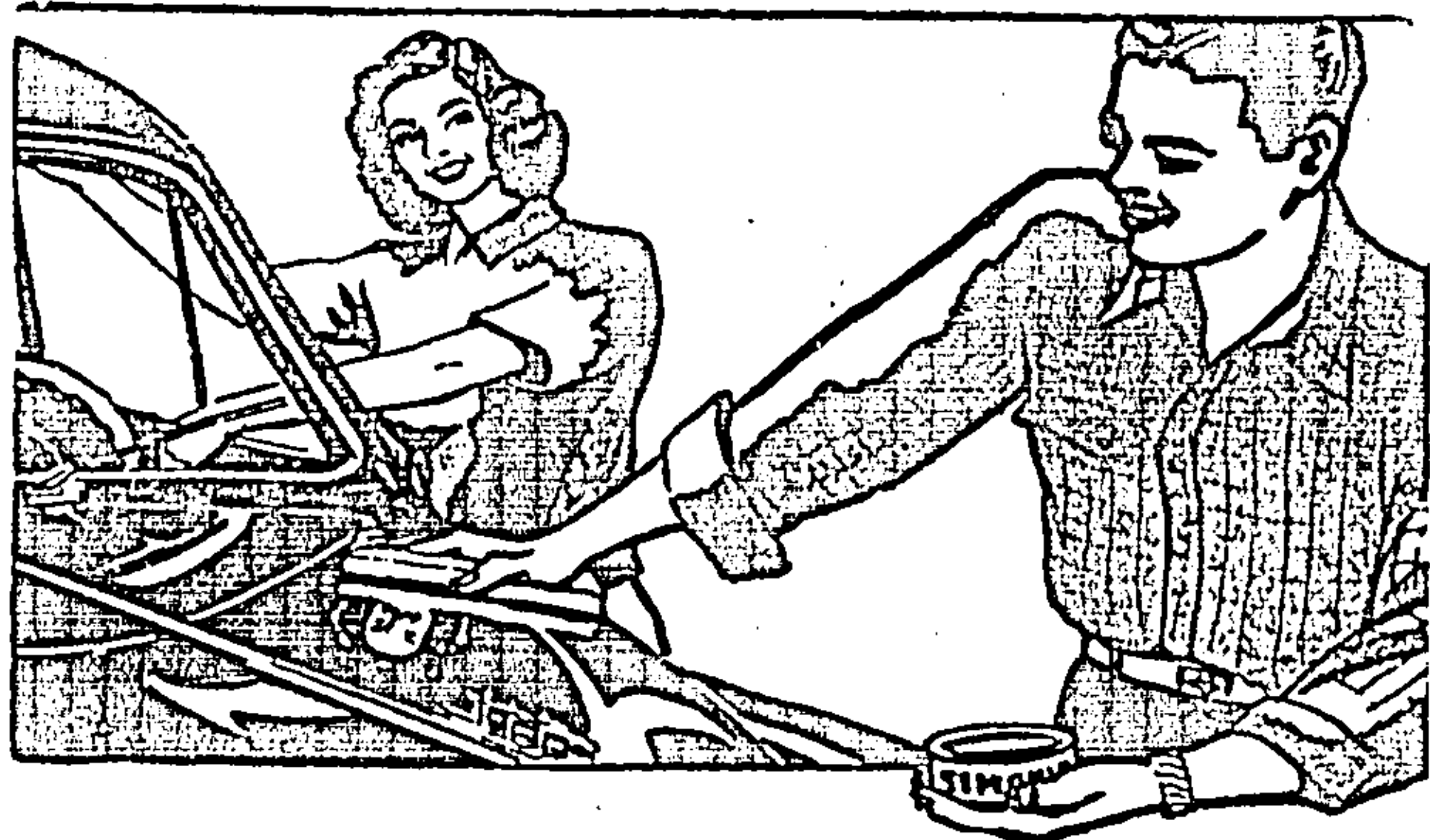


A pilot model of the automatic computing engine is now working at the National Physical Laboratory. The ACE itself will be built later, but the pilot model is a complete computer. It can tackle any problem requiring arithmetical calculation, and reduces the time taken for very involved problems from what would normally take days or weeks, to minutes, or even fractions of a second. The picture shows some of the coded cards which give the instructions to the machine. The holes start momentary electric currents which release trains of pulses which are then distributed and stored in the memory loops.—Central Press.

Truce Proposal Discussions

Lake Success, Dec. 7. General Wu Hsiu-chuan, chief of the Chinese Communist delegation to the United Nations, today received a copy of the Arab League proposal for a 30-day truce in Korea and a three-month truce in the cold war.

The proposal was made on Wednesday to Secretary-General Trygve Lie by Abdul Rahman Azzam Pasha, Secretary-General of the Arab League. It was given to General Wu at his Waldorf Astoria headquarters at 7 p.m. Azzam Pasha was to confer with Mr Lie today on his proposal which contains suggestion for a Truman-Stalin meeting. Observers believed that part of the proposal would be scrapped.—United Press.



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Germans Recalcitrant Over Defence Of Europe

London, Dec. 7.

The Big Three agreed to bring 150,000 German fighting men into the armies that will defend Western Europe, but the Germans themselves appeared opposed to the agreement.

The compromise, which calls for German combat teams totalling one-fifth of the Atlantic Pact armies, was agreed upon early on Thursday when the French Cabinet approved the beginning of German recruiting with the least possible delay.

Now the real job begins. Beaten Germany must be persuaded to contribute men to an army under General Dwight D. Eisenhower to oppose the 130 divisions Russia has ready to roll into Europe.

The Committee of Deputies, representing 12 countries, will probably meet next week to lay its plan before the Chiefs of Staff of the Atlantic Pact nations in London. Then the defence ministers will meet to give the final approval.

The Germans want full equality in the international community as their price for helping to defend Europe. But the French have agreed only to German "combat teams" of about 5,000 men each and an overall strength which is not to exceed one-fifth of the entire Atlantic forces. That should mean about 150,000 Germans.

BRITISH C-IN-C

General Eisenhower will command the overall military force with contributions from the 12 Atlantic Pact powers. The ground commander most likely will be French. The general commander in chief is expected to be British.

The big question is: Can the Germans be persuaded to take their part in the new army?

Germans who objected to the compromise plan refused to be quoted by name saying any official comment must come from Chancellor Konrad Adenauer.

But they pointed out that Herr Adenauer like other Germans, has insisted on equality for German contingents in the international programme and that the compromise programme offers nothing like that.

The plan prohibits a German war ministry or German general staff. It also bans heavy equipment for German units.—United Press.

Jap War Criminals At Stanley

Tokyo, Dec. 7.

More than 800 Japanese are still being held by Japan's former enemies, excluding Russia, as war criminals or as suspects, according to the Japanese Foreign Office quoted by the Kyodo news agency today.

A breakdown of the Japanese held abroad showed that the greatest number (329) was being detained by the Australian authorities. Twenty-eight of these were in Hongkong and 301 on Manus Island.

The British authorities were holding 328 scattered in various places from Rangoon to Hongkong. The Philippines accounted for 138, France four and others 10.

Japanese officials have repeatedly claimed that 370,000 Japanese were still being detained in the Soviet Union, although the Russians have stated that they are holding only 2,458 war criminals and nine invalids.—Reuter.

Cairo Ends State Of War With Germany

Cairo, Dec. 7.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry announced today the end of the state of war between Egypt and Germany. The official announcement stated that this decision will not affect an eventual settlement of reparations and other questions between the two countries.

Egypt decided to declare war on Germany on February 27, 1945.—Reuter.

Russians Accused Of Holding POW's

Lake Success, Dec. 7.

The United Kingdom accused the Soviet Union in the United Nations today of violating human rights on a colossal scale by refusing to repatriate thousands of German and Japanese prisoners of war.

The British delegate, Lord MacDonald, joined the delegations of the United States and Australia in the General Assembly's Social and Humanitarian Committee in sponsoring a resolution calling for a full investigation of the prisoners' plight. He said the United Nations cannot disinterest itself in the fate of these thousands of human beings. "It must attempt to establish whether the Soviet statements are true or whether in fact we are here faced with another denial of human rights on a colossal scale," he added.

The joint resolution calls for the establishment of a United Nations Commission to determine the number of prisoners still held in the Soviet Union and other Soviet-bloc countries. The sponsors made it clear that

this would be preliminary for further action by the United Nations.

Lord MacDonald said, "If the Commission finds that thousands of prisoners are held against their will and are denied the fundamental human rights, I do not think that the United Nations will be found reluctant or unwilling to take what steps it can for ensuring the enjoyment of their human rights to those so wantonly denied them."

He charged that Russia violated a series of agreements with the Western powers on the repatriation of prisoners and described efforts by Britain and the United States and Australia to secure information from the USSR. All these efforts were ignored or summarily rejected by the Moscow Government.—United Press.

Mrs. Pandit Meets British Premier: Crisis Discussed

Washington, Dec. 7.

The Indian Ambassador to Washington, Mrs Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, today conferred privately with Mr Clement Attlee, Britain's Prime Minister, on the Far Eastern crisis.

The Ambassador, who is a close personal friend of the Prime Minister, went to the British Embassy at 2.45 p.m. GMT for the conference, which was expected to touch on the recent peace moves, sponsored by India, to halt the Korean fighting.

Though there was no official intimation of the subjects to be covered in today's talks, it was expected that the Chinese reaction to the efforts of the Indian delegate to the United Nations, Sir Benegal Narsing Rau, for a settlement of the Far Eastern crisis, and also to the 13-nation appeal to China

to stop her troops at the 38th Parallel, would be discussed.

Mrs Pandit is flying to New York at 8.00 p.m. GMT today with her daughter.

Mrs Pandit is expected to return to Washington tomorrow when she will attend a conference between Mr Attlee and the Commonwealth Ambassadors in the United States.

It is thought that the Indian Ambassador would have an opportunity during her visit to New York to have a talk with the Chinese Communist delegate to the United Nations, General Wu Hsiu-chuan.

After today's meeting between Mr Attlee and Mrs Pandit, which lasted almost half an hour, an Indian official quoted Mrs Pandit as saying that it was an entirely informal discussion during a personal courtesy call.—Reuter.

Hiss Sentence

New York, Dec. 7.

The perjury conviction and the five-year prison sentence of Alger Hiss, a former State Department official, were upheld unanimously by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals on Thursday.

Hiss was convicted on January 22 of lying when he denied under oath he had given secret State Department papers to unauthorized persons including Whittaker Chambers, a former Communist courier.—United Press.



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LULL ON FRONT-BROKEN

Chinese Pouring Reinforcements Across Taedong

Seoul, Dec. 7.

South Korean troops on the United Nations defence line south of Pyongyang tonight fought off a surprise Communist attack.

In a bitter three-hour fight, the South Koreans regained several hundred yards which were lost in the early stages of the battle.

The attack—in the Yulli area 30 miles south east of Pyongyang—broke the four-day lull over the front since the Eighth Army abandoned the North Korean capital and formed a new line to the south.

It was not clear whether the Communist attack signalled the opening of a new offensive or whether it was a local probing stab.

The absence of activity along the other sectors of the front suggested that it might be purely an exploratory foray to test the strength of the South Koreans.

Communist forces are tonight reported to be pouring reinforcements southwards over the Taedong River towards the entrenched Eighth Army. The most serious threat was from the flank, where the Communists appeared to be concentrating their strength in a bid to get a pincer grip on the United Nations forces.

Intelligence reports said that the Communists were continuing to regroup their forces in the Koksan area, 50 miles south east of Pyongyang to the right of the United Nations line.

TROOPS CROSSING

At the same time they were ferrying troops over the two-mile wide Taedong River Estuary, 30 miles south west of Pyongyang, from where they could threaten the left flank.

South African and Australian Mustangs scorched eight small boats loaded with troops in incendiary attacks over the Estuary south of Chinnampo early today.

Despite the strafing, however, other small boats reached the southern bank and unloaded troops.

The left flank threat is not yet regarded as dangerous, however, it was believed that only several hundred Communists have been brought across the Estuary. They are expected, however, to bring across large numbers tonight since the absence of a moon makes them almost immune from air attack.

UNEASY CALM

Apart from the Yulli action, an uneasy calm prevailed all along the front tonight as the men manning the foxholes on the frozen hilltops waited tensely for a renewal of the Communist onslaught.

It seems, however, that the Communists are staying their hand until their forces and supplies south of the Taedong River are sufficient to ensure that their next offensive would be strong enough to drive the Eighth Army south of the 38th Parallel.—Reuter.



Her Majesty the Queen on her arrival with Princess Marie Louise, President of the Three Arts Club, and Princess Margaret when she attended the special performance of the Markova-Dolin Festival Ballet at the Stoll Theatre, Kingsway, in London. — Central Press.

Vital Day In Talks On New Guinea

The Hague, Dec. 7.

The Indonesian delegates were expected to put forward their chief proposal for a settlement of the future of West New Guinea at a vital meeting with the officials of the Dutch Government here today.

Under this plan, advanced as a compromise after three days of exploratory talks, the Dutch would grant de jure sovereignty over West New Guinea to the Indonesian Republic.

De facto administration would then be worked out by expert committees on the understanding that the bulk of the work and responsibility would fall on the Dutch.

Today's fourth session of the Netherlands-Indonesian talks was regarded as vital in that it might reveal the latest Dutch reaction to Indonesia's demands.

Diplomatic and political circles here felt that today and tomorrow would decide the conference's chances of solving the problem. The Indonesian delegation to the conference was received in audience by Queen Juliana of The Netherlands today.—Reuter.

Raw Materials Allocation

London, Dec. 7.

Leaders of a delegation from the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation left London Airport for New York last night to discuss with United States officials the allocation of raw materials to Europe.

It included M. Robert Marjolin, the Secretary-General of the OEEC, and Sir Edmund Hall-Patch, head of the British delegation to the OEEC. Sir Edmund said that they would discuss the allocation of cotton, chemical products, including sulphur, and non-ferrous metals.—Reuter.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE REJECTS SOVIET CASE

Lake Success, Dec. 7.

The United Nations General Assembly's Political Committee today rejected Soviet objections by 42 votes to five, with four absentions, to give priority to a debate on the Chinese Communist intervention in Korea.

The Soviet Union and its four supporters were alone in opposition. The four abstentions were Saudi Arabia, India, Indonesia and Burma.

Immediately after the vote, M. Andrei Vyshinsky, the Soviet delegate, lodged a "determined protest." He declared that the decision confirmed that the majority obediently followed in the wake of the Anglo-American group, which was prepared to encroach on the elementary rights of the minority.

M. Vyshinsky had strongly opposed the debate on the Korean question on the ground that the Committee had already started a debate on the Soviet charges of American aggression against China and that the debate should be continued.

The Committee also voted by 48 to five, with four abstentions, to invite a South Korean Government representative to attend the debate. Again M. Vyshinsky and his supporters objected.

In his opening speech M. Vyshinsky had referred to the "debacle" which, he said, was brought about by General MacArthur.

OIL ON THE FIRE

He said that "what you are concocting" would not ward off the threat of a third world war.

After referring to the "debacle" brought about by General MacArthur M. Vyshinsky said: "If you ask what shall

be done to avert the danger of a third world war, then I must say that what you are concocting will not ward off that threat.

"On the contrary, that threat will grow. Your actions are oil on the fire. The intervention of the United States armed forces in Korea and against China is the crux of the matter. That is the source of a third world war and those actions must be halted if this threat is to be averted."

CHINESE PRESENT

The Peking delegation, headed by General Wu Hsiu-chuan, sat in the visitors' seats in the Committee Room and heard M. Vyshinsky oppose the suggestion that the present Korean situation should be given priority.

Dr Vavro Hajdu, of Czechoslovakia, supporting M. Vyshinsky, asked: "What is the urgency in requesting that this matter receive priority? Is it because, in a few days, it may be in the realm of fiction because the American forces are running so fast?"

"Peace is not only endangered by the advance of the democratic forces but peace is served because the aggressor is being beaten."

M. Kuzma Kiselev, of Byelorussia, proposed that the Korean item be placed last on the Committee's list of subjects and urged that the Committee hear the Peking delegation on the charges of aggression against the United States.

Mr Kenneth Younger, for Britain, urging priority for a

discussion on Korea, said that M. Vyshinsky's objection was only one more instance of the Soviet habit of trying to turn the United Nations into a propaganda forum.

"PURE MOONSHINE"

The charges of American aggression against China had already been considered in the Security Council, which had taken the view that, in a large measure, they were "moonshine."

Mahmoud Fawzi Bey, of Egypt, supporting priority for the Korean question, read into the record the proposal two days ago by the 13 Asian and Middle Eastern countries urging the Chinese Communists to stop at the 38th Parallel.

Fawzi Bey said that recently several other United Nations members had rallied in support of this appeal.

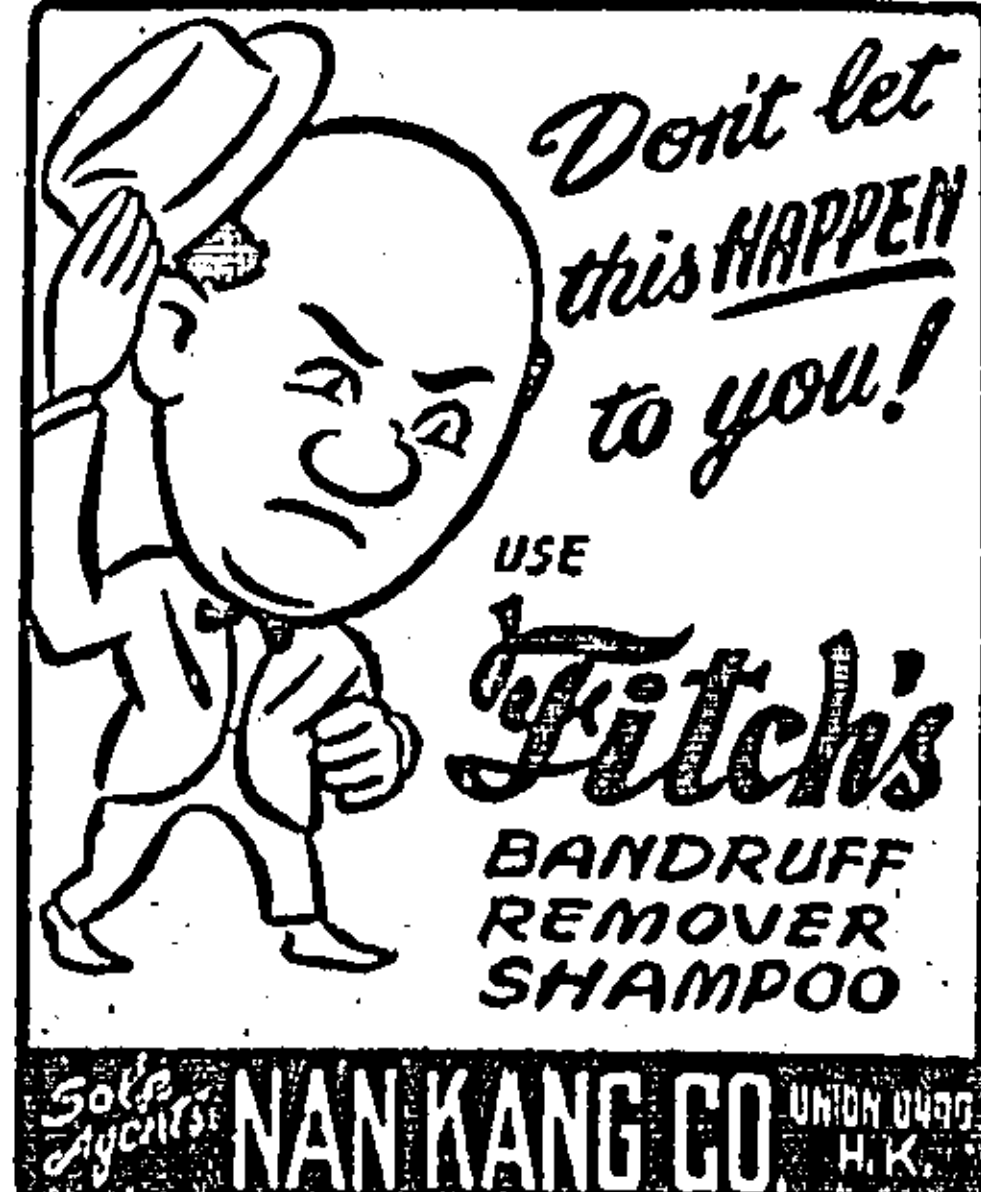
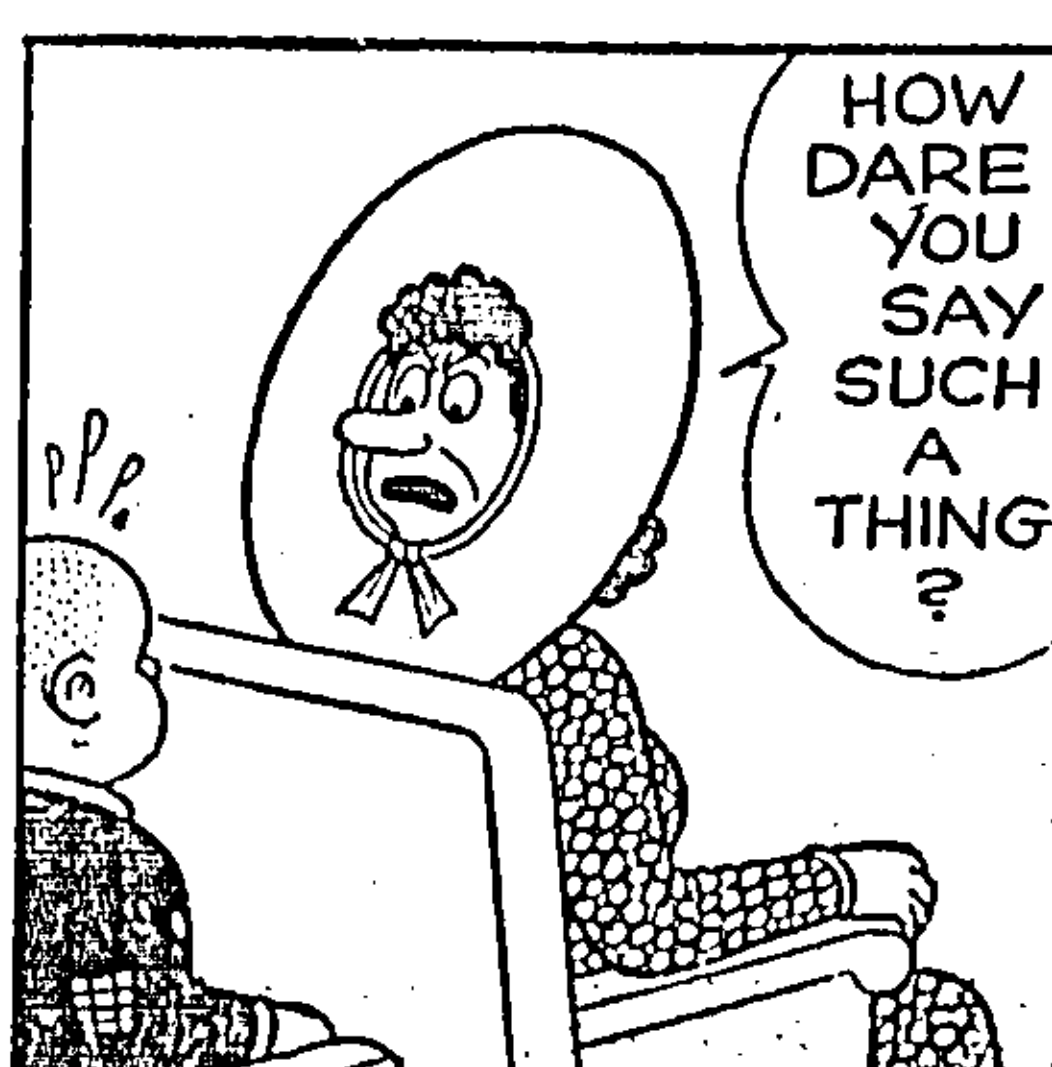
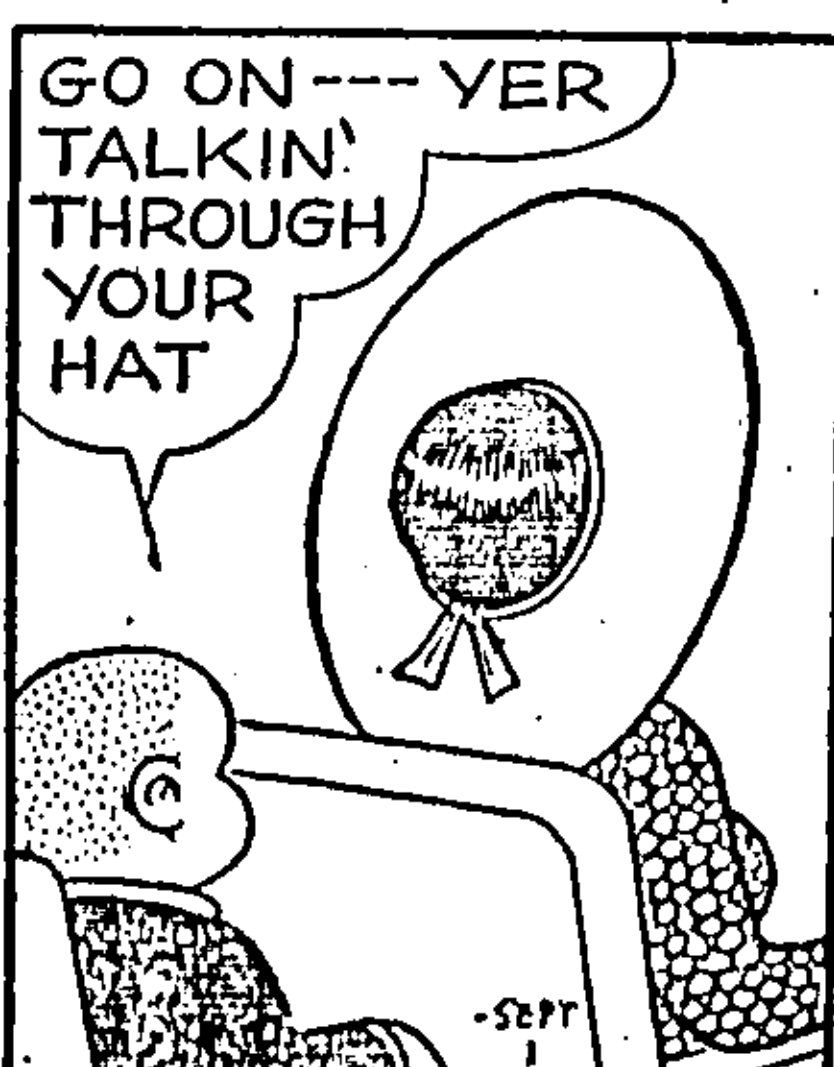
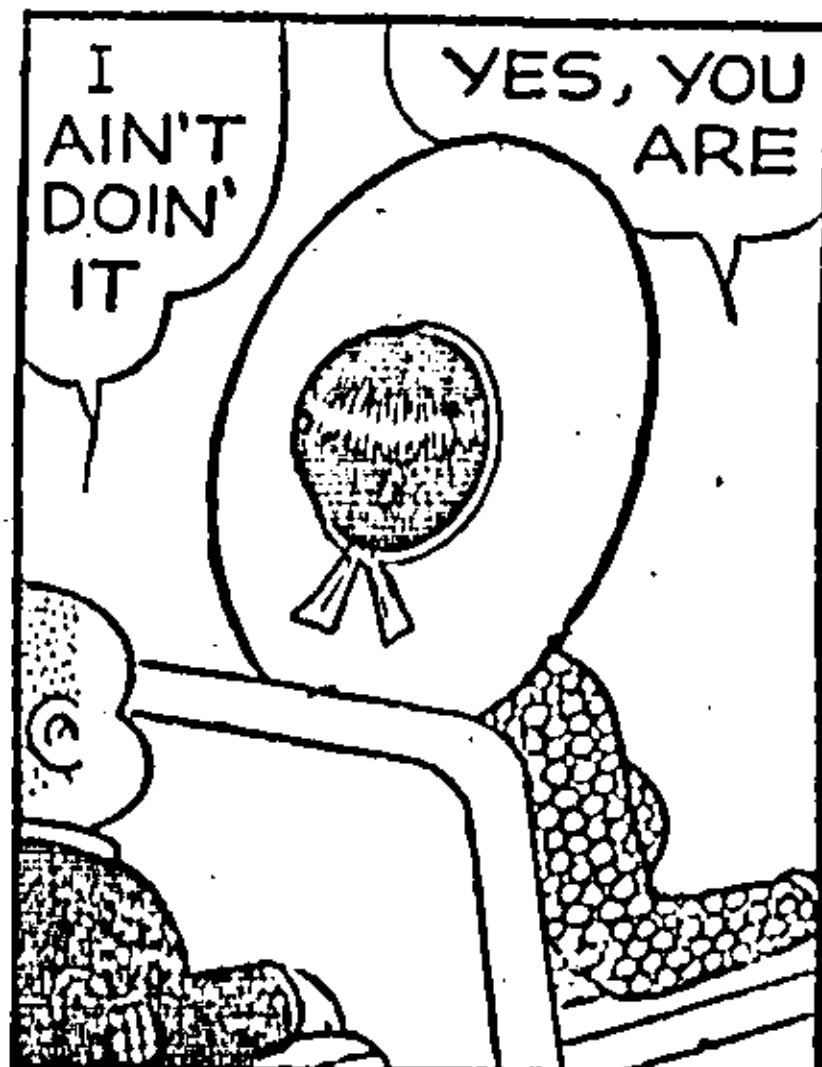
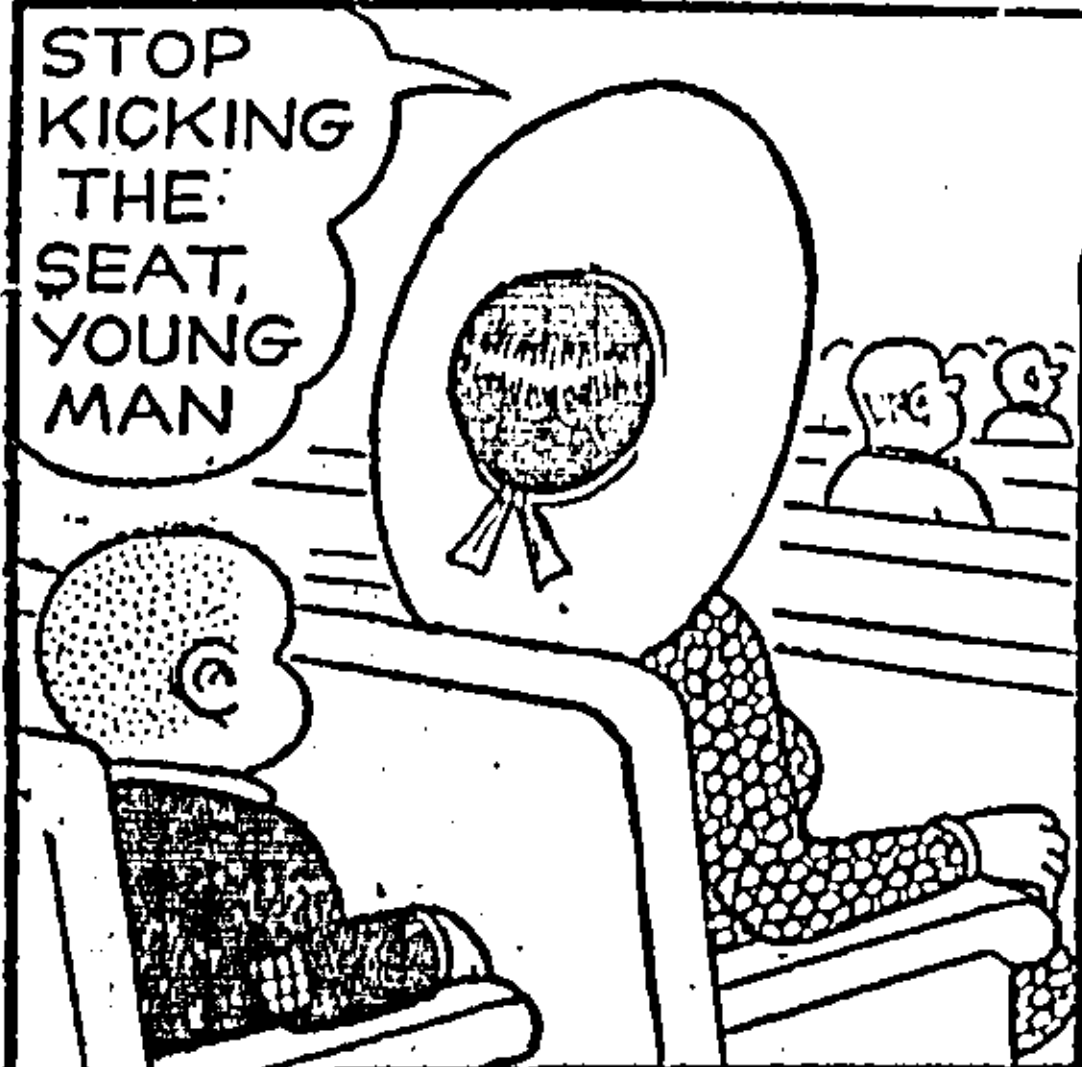
M. Vyshinsky, in a later speech, commented that the Security Council had first taken up alleged Chinese intervention in Korea on November 8. "During the month which has elapsed, the urgency of the matter did not increase except for the debacle which was brought about and carried out in such a talented manner by General MacArthur, the debacle of the American armed intervention in Korea," he added.

Now, they have to save General MacArthur's face because of the panic there, "is confusing fiction and figures."—Reuter.

NANCY

The Crowning Blow

By Ernie Bushmiller



Don't let this happen to you!

USE Fitch's BANDRUFF REMOVER SHAMPOO

NAN KANG CO. H.K.

NEWPORT ARE THE RUGBY TEAM OF THE YEAR

Says PETER LOVEGROVE

Although they have only once been able to field their best side, Newport are the only first-class rugby union club in England and Wales to emerge from the first three months of the season with a 100 percent record.

They have scored 204 points and conceded only 45, and their 13 successive victims include their great Welsh rivals, Cardiff, Swansea and Neath, and the English clubs Bristol, Gloucester, Leicester, Blackheath, Wasps and Plymouth Albion.

The men from Monmouthshire, always popular wherever they go because of their clean and attractive play, and their determination to throw the ball about whenever opportunity can be grasped, have shown themselves equally at home on soft, muddy pitches and hard, fast grounds.

The secret of their success lies in magnificent teamwork, direct methods, and speedy covering in defence rather than the genius of particular stars. They can wield the bludgeon or the rapier with equal effect according to circumstances.

DISCONCERTING SPEED

Though their pack is big and heavy, and can mix it at close quarters with the most formidable, it has a disconcerting speed on the ball in the loose and heels quickly from the mauls—an almost forgotten art these days.

Scrum-leader is R. T. Evans, the open-side wing forward who has already won six caps for Wales and played in all the British Isles Test matches in New Zealand and Australia this summer: he is one of the best tacklers in the game and always at hand in attack and defence. His back-row partners are usually D. G. Ackerman and Welsh Trialist Peter Davies, both very lively skilful players.

In the second-row is the mountainous, balding Ben Edwards and L. E. T. Jones, who make such excellent use of their height in the line-outs. Edwards is also a most reliable place kicker—he kicked seven goals in the last three games—was in the first Welsh Trial a few weeks ago, and is not far from International honours. Tom Sterry, in the front row, also got a trial last winter.

Newport have not been so outstanding in the matter of hooking, and when I saw them in a fog-blanketed match with London Welsh at Herve Hill, they gave a trial to J. Travers. This youngster comes from a very famous rugby family long connected with Newport and Wales.

His brother "Bunny" earned 12 Welsh caps before and after the Second World War, actually

Boat Race May Be 1949 'Repeat'

It looks as though the University Boat Race of 1949, which Cambridge won after being behind for every stroke but the last, will be repeated in one respect next Easter Saturday (writes Hylton Cleaver). The game two strokes are likely to meet again whereas this year they did not.

Christopher Davidge, of Oxford, then fell ill. David Jennings, of Cambridge, surrendered his seat to J. L. M. Crick, of Lady Margaret, and retired to "2."

Crick has now gone down, but Jennings, who expected to, and who joined London with a view to rowing for them at Henley, will now be staying up a little longer and will be available for the race on March 24.

—(London Express Service)

returning to International football after a lapse of 10 years, while his father played 25 times for his country in the early years of the century and took part in that memorable Welsh victory over the first All Blacks at Cardiff in 1905.

RAPIER-LIKE

The rapier-like thrusts outside the scrum come from the diminutive red-headed Roy Burnett at outside-half. Burnett is well served by W. A. Williams, who sends out a long, flat pass which enables his partner to stand well clear of the scrums.

Burnett makes the most of these extra two yards in which to manoeuvre freely away from the attentions of marauding wing-forwards; a most deceptive diagonal runner and quick thinker, he can take advantage of the slightest chink of an opening and is also a dropped-goal expert and a fine tackler. He has had several trials for Wales, but never seems to come off in those games.

The three-quarter line, which has not been seen at full strength this season, has been sound rather than brilliant, probably at its best in defence, when incidentally the whole side covers in depth with the thoroughness of a Dominion side. All tackle whole-heartedly, and that goes for the cool-headed R. Hughes at full-back too.

ABSENTEES

The most notable absentees so far have been John Gwilliam among the forwards, and Malcolm Thomas and Ken Jones in the threes. Gwilliam, last year's worthy skipper of the Welsh side which won the Triple Crown, is in Scotland, while British Isles tourist Malcolm Thomas is in the Navy, and will be fully occupied with Devonport Services (which he captains), the Navy and Wales for most of the season.

Ken Jones, the fastest winger in the four countries today, with 17 Welsh and 4 British Isles caps to his credit so far, is this year's Newport skipper but has only played one game for the club since his return from "down under", and promptly broke a finger in his left hand.

He was a touch judge and told me, in his pleasantly marked Welsh accent, that his finger had set well and was now out of plaster; he hopes to be turning out again. "It doesn't do to be out too long," he said, "they soon forget and pass you over in this game." Not that he has much to worry about on that score.

With these three leading players turning out regularly, Newport would at once qualify as "the team of the year." There is such a happy and determined spirit about the club, however, that they may even do it without them.



R. Gheen (Oxford University) gets his backs away following a scrum in the match against Harlequins at Twickenham. Oxford won 8-0.

Gardner - Savold Fight In London

Next Year?

By GEORGE WHITING

The White City Stadium—maximum capacity 80,000—has been booked for a big fight on Tuesday, June 5, 1951.

It is too early to say who the principal boxers will be.

But they could be Britain's new Heavyweight Champion, Jack Gardner and America's Lee Savold—for the British and European version of the World Heavyweight Championship.

Gardner, who leaves on December 14 for an exhibition tour of South Africa, will be tried against at least two other American heavyweights before being given a world title match with Savold.

—(London Express Service)

Rugby League's Record Offer Of £6,000 To Bleddyn Williams

London.

The record offer of £6,000 made by the Leeds Rugby League club to Bleddyn Williams, the Welsh International Rugby Union centre, seems small when compared with some of the gigantic fees paid lately for soccer players.

But a soccer player gets no part of the transfer fee, whereas Williams, if he decides to become a professional player, will receive the whole fee, together with a house and a job.

Moreover, the entry of Williams into the League ranks would cause as much comment in Rugby Union circles as big transfers do in the soccer world.

For Williams is regarded as the cleverest centre in the British Isles and has been capped 12 times for Wales since the war. He was unlucky to miss all the International matches last season through injury, for he had been chosen to lead Wales in the first, and he thus missed the honour of captaining or playing for his country in the year when they won the Triple Crown for the first time since 1911.

As vice-captain of the British Isles team that toured New Zealand and Australia last summer, Williams added to his reputation and with Dr Jack Matthews, his partner in the Welsh centre, and Jack Kyle, the Irish

outside-half, gave exhibitions of inspired back play that fascinated the spectators.

SEVERAL OFFERS

Since his return from the tour he has received several offers from League clubs but has said that he will not decide until some time later.

In a recent poll, carried out by the Sports Writers Association of Great Britain, to determine the six sportsmen who have done the most for British prestige this year, Williams was placed in the first twelve. Should he decide to change his code, Cardiff, Wales and Rugby Union will lose one of the brightest stars of the post-war game but the League will gain a great player who brings with him the experience and craft of many years' top class rugby.—Reuter.

JAPAN'S DAVIS CUP CHALLENGE

Americans Make An Announcement Out Of Turn

Sydney, Dec. 7.

Australian tennis officials were shocked on Thursday by the New York announcement that a Japanese team was playing in the North American zone of the Davis Cup next year.

New South Wales Tennis Association President Bryan Fuller said: "Coming from America, this news is a shock. I find it strange and amusing that America should make an official announcement of Japan's challenge."

The President of the Lawn Tennis Association of Australia, Sir Norman Brookes, commented at Melbourne it is entirely unlikely that the Japanese will reach a position to play against Australia.

He said: "If they get to the challenge round, of course we shall have to sit up and take notice."

He said he was "quite in the dark" regarding the present Japanese tennis prowess.

He said Australia "for very good reasons" abstained from voting on the decision made at Lausanne in July to readmit Germany and Japan to the Davis Cup games.

Australian tennis players claim the holding nation—Australia—should have been making any announcements of Japan's challenge.

An influential section of the Australian tennis world violently opposed Japan's Cup participation but the general feeling is that only a miracle could give Japan a strong enough team to become the challenger in the Australian finals in Sydney next November.—United Press.

ALGAR SMITH TO FIGHT FALLON

The London lightweight boxer, Algar Smith, former Amateur Lightweight Champion, who is still undefeated as a professional, will meet Peter Fallon, of Birkenhead, on the Randolph Turpin versus Tommy Yarosz programme at Harringay on December 12.

Fallon, who beat Cliff Curvis in 1948 and won the North-Central Lightweight title, lost to Tommy McGovern in the final eliminator for the British title.

The contest will be over eight rounds at 10 stone, two pounds.—Reuter.

Cockell-Hunter Match For Empire Title

The British Boxing Board of Control, following an application from the Transvaal Board, have decided that should a contest be arranged under full Championship conditions between Don Cockell, the British Light Heavyweight Champion, and George Hunter, the South African title holder, they would recognise it as being for the British Empire Championship.—Reuter.



"Did you ever think that maybe you just don't like coffee?"

Inside Information

By Mercury

A PLOT to sail Polish warships into western ports has been thwarted by arrests of high officers in Gdynia.

A Russian, Admiral Szelagovsky, has been appointed to command the Polish Navy.

King Farouk may propose membership of the Atlantic Pact as an alternative to the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty.

Britain and the U.S. are studying proposals to scale down Marshall aid and increase military aid for Britain under the Atlantic Pact.

A military conference will be held in Moscow with generals of the European satellite states. They have been disturbed by the hesitant Soviet support given to North Korea.

Hungary is finding it hard to train suitable officers for her ten division army.

Britain has lent Egypt a senior civil servant to overhaul her civil service. Egypt wants to send naval officers to Britain to tour Royal Navy establishments.

There are 14,000 registered Russian deserters in Western Europe including six generals.

Persia has prolonged military service for officers by six months.

Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands will make a good will tour of South America in 1951.

Soviet jamming stations are doing regular five-minute jamming tests on British broadcasts to Eastern European countries. This jamming could blot out all programmes, but Moscow is holding it in reserve.

All letters from abroad received in Czechoslovakia have to be handed in to the Post Office after being read.

Two Czechoslovak ice hockey stars, who planned to escape during a fixture in London, are now working in Rovnost uranium mine.

A senior British security official is on a tour of British Embassies and High Commissioners' offices.

He will see whether secret documents are safely kept and regulations to prevent espionage strictly applied.

Mr Bevin, after talks between Treasury and Foreign Office officials, has told the Argentine

Ambassador that Britain will not agree to higher meat prices.

Threats by West Germany to quit the European Payments Union and rely on its own dollar earnings led to the new £42,000,000 loan.

A secret condition for the new loan is that West Germany sticks to the principles of the European Recovery Plan.

Marshal Guderian, Hitler's last Chief of Staff, is the leader of a German military group offering to serve with the Egyptian Army.

Rommel's senior staff officer, Colonel von Tempelhoff, has already accepted an advisory post in Syria.

The British Government is working out draft legislation for dealing summarily with minor Communist activities as disaffection.

High Court procedure would be avoided and sentences would not exceed two years.

A severe blow to British trade next year will be the lifting by Canada of import restrictions on American goods.

Marshal Tito, as a concession to Western opinion, will pass laws soon curtailing police powers and increasing the authority of courts of law.

STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: South

Game all

N

K Q 9 6

A J 5 2

J 10 4

8 4

E

A J 3 2

Q 4 3

A 6 2

K J 3 2

S

10 5

K Q 8 7 6

Q 8

A 10 7 5

In the 1949 Masters' Individual Championship, at five of the six tables South opened One Heart and passed over North's limit raise to Three Hearts exactly nine tricks being made. At the last table the jump raise was treated as forcing, so North temporised with One Spade. When South rebid Two Hearts North decided that a mere raise to Three Hearts would not show his fine trump support, so he jumped to Four—a good example of the pitfalls of the forcing jump raise.

South tried to make his contract by winning the opening Club lead and running his A 10. This gave him an outside chance if West held A J and the opponents failed to cash their tricks quickly, but the result was two down.

London Express Service.

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

Newsprint Export To Malaya: Query In Commons

London, Dec. 7.

Mr Harold Wilson, President of the Board of Trade, said today that he could not increase the amount of British newsprint exports to Malaya in 1951.

Air Commodore, Arthur Harvey, Conservative, had asked in the House of Commons if Mr Wilson would make available to newspapers in Malaya more British newsprint from the lower priced export surplus in 1951.

Mr Wilson replied: "The whole of the 100,000 tons to which the Government has limited exports (to the Commonwealth) from British mills in 1951 is already committed."

"In its allocation it took full account of the representations made on behalf of the colonies and other parts of the Commonwealth."

Commodore Harvey: "Does that mean that the representations have been ineffective? Do you not think that Malaya, which is going through this frightful emergency, needs paper at the right price? In view of the dollars earned by the colony, will you not consider this matter in the light of the existing circumstances?"

COLONIAL OFFICE VIEW

Mr Wilson: "The representations were by no means ineffective. But it would only be possible to increase the allocation for Malaya if we were able to produce one of the other forms of export."

Mr Alan Lennox-Boyd (Conservative): "Was any extra weight given to Malaya in view of the fact that it is the only part of the Empire now at war?"

Mr Wilson: "We were guided by the Colonial Office. They gave us their views on shipments to particular colonies."

Air Commodore Harvey gave notice that, in view of the "unsatisfactory reply," he would try to raise the matter again.—Reuter.

London Tin Market

London, Dec. 7.

The tin market eased at the morning session today. Turnover was very small—only 25 tons, including five tons of spot.

Prices closed today at the end of the official session as follows:—
Spot tin, buyers 1,090
Spot tin, sellers 1,095
Business done at 1,090
Three-months tin, buyers 950
Three-months tin, sellers 950
Business done at 985
Settlement 1,090
—United Press.

Rubber Futures In Singapore

Singapore, Dec. 7.

Prices in the rubber futures market here closed today as follows:—

No. 1 rubber, per lb. December 172½-173½
No. 1 rubber January (1951) 161-162
No. 1 rubber, February 157-158
No. 2 rubber, December 162½-163½
No. 3 rubber, December 152½-153½
No. 4 rubber, December 142½-143½
Spot rubber, unbaled 173-174
Black crepe 125-127
No. 1 pale crepe 179-182
—United Press.

Offers Of Copra

New York, Dec. 7.

Sellers continued to offer copra for nearby shipment at \$212.50 per short ton. Buyers were indifferent. In coconut oil, December shipment was offered at 16½ cents.—United Press.

NY Cotton Market Gets The Jitters

New York, Dec. 7.

Cotton futures prices raced up and down in the price scale, responding to small orders either way. The uncertainties in the Korean situation kept traders on edge. Possibilities of a compromise peace clashed with unconfirmed rumours that the Administration might declare a state of limited emergency. Following out that line of reasoning, traders began to develop fresh fears that the Administration might decide to put a quick freeze on prices.

The muddled situation in international politics and uncertainty over Government controls at home brought some selling right after a higher opening. Nervous longs ran away when the market started to slide under the impact of hedge selling and commission house liquidation.

Uncovering of stop loss orders speeded in the mid-morning break which did not culminate until March delivery dropped almost 100 points from the opening high. Mill and other trade interests subsequently brought a brisk rally of about 50 points from the lows, but the market had a hard time in holding the rallies in the face of hedging and liquidation. The evening up furnished another feature. The circulation of delivery notices for 1,200 bales brought recurring spells of liquidation in the spot month.

The market opened off 5 to up 20, then slumped to losses of 19 to 94 points on the mid-morning break and then closed 48 points to 11 points higher. Prices closed today as follows:—

Spot 42.75
December 41.82
March (1951) 41.80-41.85
May 41.13-41.23
July 40.55-40.60
October 36.86
December 36.50
March (1952) 36.22 nominal
May 36.02
—United Press.

New Orleans Cotton

New Orleans, Dec. 7.

Spot 41.85
December 42.82 bld
March (1951) 41.64-41.65
May 41.05-41.06
July 40.46
October 36.78 bld
December 36.21
March (1952) 35.89 bld
May 36.11 bld
—United Press.

Abaca Purchase

Washington, December 7.

The ECA announced today that it has allocated \$250,000 to Norway for the purchase of Abaca fibre in the Philippines. The delivery is to be made by July 31.—United Press.

Grains Fall Off In Chicago

Chicago, Dec. 7.

Most deliveries fell off today after a firm opening with soybeans leading the decline and dropping as much as 4½ cents a bushel. It was reported in the market that the ECA had authorised the Netherlands to purchase \$3,325,000 of bread grains.

Wheat futures closed ½ to 1½ cents lower, corn was ½ to ¾ lower, oats ½ lower to ¾ higher, rye 1½ to 2 lower and soybeans 2 to 3 lower.

Prices closed today as follows:—

Wheat—price per bushel
Spot 2.20½
December 2.20½
March (1951) 2.34½-½
May 2.33½-¾
July 2.20½
Corn
Spot 1.71½
December 1.66½-¾
March (1951) 1.67½-¾
May 1.67½-¾
July 1.67½-¾
Rye
December 1.48
May (1951) 1.55¾
Oats
December 96½-¾
March (1951) 98½
New York flour—per 200 lb sack, \$12.60.—United Press.

Sterling Release

New Delhi, Dec. 7.

The Indian Finance Minister, Dr Chintaman Deshmukh, told the Indian Parliament today that arrangements had been made to release £210 million from India's sterling balances with Britain during six years beginning July, 1951.—Reuter.

OUTWARD MAILS

A surface mail to United Kingdom per RMS Chusan will be closed on December 8. This mail is expected to arrive in London on or about January 6. Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles (by air or sea) and Parcel Posts close One Hour earlier than the ordinary mail where mails close on Sundays or before 10 a.m. on any other days; registered and parcel posts close at 1 p.m. on the previous day. Mails are closed at Kowloon Central Post Office one hour earlier than the G.P.O. closing times.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

Closing Times By Air

B. N. Borneo, Australia & New Zealand, 5 p.m.
Indo-China, French North Africa & France, 5 p.m.
Philippines, Hawaii & U.S.A. (letter second class mail and parcels) Guam, (letters and second class mail) Canada, (letters only), 5 p.m.
India, Pakistan, Persian Gulf Ports, Iraq, Iran, Egypt, East & South Africa, Mauritius, Great Britain, Spain, Portugal, Italy & N. W. Europe, 5 p.m.
Formosa, 5 p.m.
Closing Times By Sea
Malaya, Ceylon, Madagascar, Mauritius, India, Arabia, Egypt, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, French North Africa, Great Britain & N. W. Europe, 4 p.m. (par & reg); 5 p.m. (ord).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Closing Times By Air

Formosa, 3 p.m.
Siam, 5 p.m.
Closing Times By Sea
Philippines & B. N. Borneo, B. N. Guinea, Australia & New Zealand, 10 a.m.
Formosa, 11 a.m.
Malaya & Indonesia, 2 p.m.
East & South Africa, 2 p.m.
Burma, 2 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Closing Times By Air

Philippines & B. N. Borneo, 10 a.m.
Formosa, 10 a.m.
Closing Times By Sea
Philippines, 9 a.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

Closing Times By Air

Formosa, 10 a.m.
U.S.A. & Canada, 2 p.m.
Indo-China, French North Africa & France, 5 p.m.
Siam, Burma, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand & Ceylon, 5 p.m.
India, Pakistan, Persian Gulf Ports, Iraq, Iran, Egypt, East & South Africa, Mauritius, Great Britain, Italy & N. W. Europe, 5 p.m.
Closing Times By Sea
Malaya & India, 2 p.m.
Siam, 3 p.m.

BIG TWO TALKS IN FINAL STAGE

Finishing Touches Put To Programme To Deal With Korea

Possibility Of Blockade Of Red China To Be Discussed

Washington, Dec. 7.

President Truman and Mr Clement Attlee, today put the finishing touches to a military and political programme to deal with the Korean crisis.

Authoritative sources said that the two leaders' review of the world tensions created by Chinese Communist intervention in the Korean war had reached the final stages.

Strong Enough To Keep Peace?

Berlin, Dec. 7.

Dr Ralph Bunche, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, said today that the next few weeks might provide the answer to the "big question" — whether the United Nations is strong enough to keep the peace and save the world from a catastrophe.

In a recorded broadcast over the American forces network here, Dr Bunche said, "There is only one way to secure peace in the world and that is through the United Nations."

Although Dr Bunche did not draw any parallels between the Palestine negotiations, which he led, and the current attempts to negotiate a truce in Korea, some of his problems in stopping the Arab-Jewish war were strikingly similar to those in Korea.

Reviewing the results of UN mediation in Palestine in the light of later developments, Dr Bunche said, "I have no doubt the armistice will stand up."

Dr Bunche said the differences "are really quite few" and cited as the most important the 750,000 Arab refugees and the status of Jerusalem. He said there might be local incidents, "but we certainly do not anticipate any resumption of hostilities between the Arab states and Israel on any large scale."—United Press.

BITTER FIGHTING

(Continued from Page 1)

at least two Communist jets in a clash with six other MIG-15 jets northwest of Sinanju.

Twenty Yak-type planes were strafed on the Sinuiju Airfield at the mouth of the Yalu River. Three more were claimed hit in a raid on the airfield at Pyongyang.

Australian and South African Mustangs took part in today's air operations.

GUERRILLA ACTIVITY

North Korean guerrillas who have been inactive in the 38th Parallel area for the past month renewed their activities today, leading to reports that the Chinese armies had reached the vital line.

The 20,000 British and Australian troops, now in Korea, plus further British reinforcements and the first Canadian contingent, expected soon, may soon be banded together into one Commonwealth division, an informed military source said today.

They would thus be commanded by a Major General, enabling the views of Com-

Officials had already begun drafting the final communique to announce the decisions made by them since the talks started last Monday.

The two leaders held their fifth meeting today and afterwards Mr Attlee was attending a conference on Western European defence with the President's special aide, Mr W. Averell Harriman, and the Secretary of Defence, General George C. Marshall.

The last meeting between the two leaders was tentatively scheduled for 4 p.m. G.M.T. tomorrow.

Still to be discussed at these final meetings were the following:

(1) The appointment of a supreme commander "very shortly" for the proposed North Atlantic army in Western Europe.

(2) Further action in the United Nations regarding Chinese Communist intervention in the Korean war.

(3) The possibility of a United Nations blockade of Communist China and economic sanctions.

(4) Recommendations from economic experts for plans to step up British and American armament production, remove current shortages of raw materials and co-ordinate in terms of equality of sacrifice the economic controls in the two countries required by rearmament.

OTTAWA TRIP

If all goes well, Mr Attlee is now planning to leave Washington on Friday, to meet United Nations leaders on Friday night and to fly to Ottawa on Saturday morning.

He plans to return to London on Sunday night.

Tonight's meeting ended at 10.10 p.m. G.M.T. It had lasted one hour and 40 minutes.

Mr Attlee replied "Okay" when correspondents asked him, as he was modestly slipping out of the White House. "How are things going, Mr Prime Minister?"

The two leaders' talks are moving into the crucial phase, with a final decision required on the action to be taken if the Chinese Communists continued their intervention in Korea.

They were turning their attention to the Far East again after having spent two sessions yesterday discussing the West's defence needs.

EXPERT AID

Among those with President Truman and Mr Attlee at this afternoon's meeting were Mr Dean Acheson, the Secretary of State, Mr George C. Marshall, the Secretary of Defence, Mr John Snyder, the Secretary of the Treasury,

monwealth field commanders to be voiced with more weight than is possible at present.

At the same time, the two Brigadiers here—Brigadier Tom Brodie, commanding the 20th Brigade and Brigadier Basil Coad, commanding the 27th—would be freed from much administrative matter and allowed to concentrate on field problems.

The South Korean Government today reimposed martial law over all South Korea.—Reuter.

General Omar Bradley, Chairman of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff, Mr Averell Harriman, President Truman's foreign affairs adviser, Mr Stuart Symington, the Chairman of the National Resources Security Board, Dr Philip Jessup, Ambassador-at-Large, Mr George Perkins, Assistant Secretary of State for European affairs; Sir Oliver Franks, the British Ambassador, Field-Marshal Sir William Slim, chief of the British Imperial General Staff, and Lord Tedder, Marshal of the Royal Air Force.—Reuter.



Medical attendants attached to the U.S. Marines, now under severe pressure and surrounded in North-East Korea, administer blood plasma to one of the wounded. Navy planes are evacuating the wounded to an aircraft-carrier lying off the coast. (Acme).

Panic Sweeps Seoul On 'Secret' Warning To Head South

Seoul, Dec. 7.

Near panic swept through the South Korean capital today as news leaked out that the Government had secretly warned members of the National Assembly to send their families to the south coast.

An authoritative source told Reuter that the Government warning was given by the Defence Minister, Mr Shin Sung Mo, at an emergency secret session of the National Assembly today.

Mr Mo said that it was "advisable" that families of prominent civil servants should also be sent to Pusan. He added that in the event of the Communist armies recrossing south of the 38th Parallel the Assembly and the Government would immediately transfer to Pusan.

A few hours after the secret Assembly session, Korean military police opened the barriers that had prevented civilians crossing southward over the Han River, which runs through the southern suburbs.

The Government action brought into the open the thinly disguised fear that has lain over Seoul since Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, was recaptured by the Communists on Tuesday.

Many wealthy families have already been evacuated from Seoul. The trickle of refugees began to swell today as the poorer people joined the flight.

The prices of truck and bus seats from Seoul to Pusan rose abruptly from 60,000 won (US\$15) to one million won (US\$250). One million won represents a year and a half's earnings for the average Korean workman.

The prices of furniture dropped to 10 percent of last week's prices as the jittery householders flooded the market with household goods that they could not carry with them. Jewellery prices rose to double last week's levels.

In Seoul's main market this evening, a grand piano could be bought for about half the price of a second-hand wrist watch of indifferent quality.

Reassurances from prominent citizens that the advancing Communists would stop at the 38th Parallel went unheeded by the million citizens of the capital, who bitterly recalled similar assurances of last June.

Some families who could not leave immediately began to send their young sons of military age into the hills to escape the rapidly widening draft net.

Pharmacies reported what probably epitomised, as clearly as anything else, the fear of a city living anxiously under the shadow of reoccupation by the Communists—they were being flooded with demands for poison.—Reuter.

Attack On Acheson Begins Openly

Washington, Dec. 7.

Representative Hugh Scott, Jr., former chairman of the Republican National Committee, introduced a resolution in the House today asking President Truman to fire the Secretary of State, Mr Dean Acheson.—United Press.

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NOTICE

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of THE HONGKONG SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN will be held in St. John's Cathedral Hall on Thursday, December 14 at 5.30 p.m. All interested in Child Welfare are cordially invited to attend.

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